

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for using workflows, the method comprising the steps of:

associating workflows with one or more groups in an identity system, each group including one or more users of the identity system;

receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to at least one target identity profile of an entity in said identity system; and

performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated with a first group that includes the target identity profile;

wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target identity profile;

said step of performing includes the steps of identifying a plurality of workflows that perform said task and are associated with groups that include said target identity profile, said plurality of workflows includes said first workflow, reporting said plurality of workflows to a user via a Graphical User Interface (GUI), receiving from the user via the GUI a selection of said first workflow from the plurality of workflows, and performing one or more steps of said first workflow;

said first workflow comprises a predefined set of steps that perform said task to affect the target identity profile, said predefined set of steps comprising a first step and a second step;

said first step is performed by a first program;

said second step is performed by a second program;

information is passed between said first program and said second program according to a defined set of rules; and

at least one of the first program and the second program is external to the workflow.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first group, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in a data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure of entities in the identity system, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.
3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein:
said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target identity profile.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request is a request to delete said target identity profile.
6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request is a request to modify said target identity profile.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said steps of associating, receiving and performing are performed by an integrated identity and access system.
10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request is for self-registration.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said request is from a parent workflow; and

said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein:
said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

14. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method comprising the steps of:

associating workflows with one or more groups in an identity system, each group including one or more users of the identity system;

receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to at least one target identity profile of an entity in said identity system; and

performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated with a first group that includes the target identity profile;

wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target identity profile;

said step of performing includes the steps of identifying a plurality of workflows that perform said task and are associated with groups that include said target identity profile, said plurality of workflows includes said first workflow, reporting said plurality of workflows to a user via a Graphical User Interface (GUI), receiving from the user via the GUI a selection of said first workflow from the plurality of workflows, and performing one or more steps of said first workflow;

said first workflow comprises a predefined set of steps that perform said task to affect the target identity profile, said predefined set of steps comprising a first step and a second step;

said first step is performed by a first program;

said second step is performed by a second program;

information is passed between said first program and said second program according to a defined set of rules; and
at least one of the first program and the second program is external to the workflow.

15. (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first group, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in a data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure of entities in the identity system, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

16. (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 15, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target identity profile.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said steps of associating, receiving and performing are performed by an integrated identity and access system.

21. (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said request is from a parent workflow; and

said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 15, wherein:

said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that uses workflows, comprising:
a communication interface;

one or more processor in communication with said communication interface, said one or more processors perform a method comprising the steps of:

associating workflows with one or more groups in an identity system, each group including one or more users of the identity system;

receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to at least one target identity profile of an entity in said identity system; and

performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated with a first group that includes the target identity profile;

wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target identity profile;

said step of performing includes the steps of identifying a plurality of workflows that perform said task and are associated with groups that include said target identity profile, said plurality of workflows includes said first workflow, reporting said plurality of workflows to a user via a Graphical user Interface (GUI), receiving from the user via the GUI a selection of said first workflow from the plurality of workflows, and performing one or more steps of said first workflow;

said first workflow comprises a predefined set of steps that perform said task to affect the target identity profile, said predefined set of steps comprising a first step and a second step;

said first step is performed by a first program;

said second step is performed by a second program;

information is passed between said first program and said second program according to a defined set of rules; and
at least one of the first program and the second program is external to the workflow.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:
said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first group, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in a data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure of entities in the identity system, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein:
said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target identity profile and entries in said hierarchical data structure that are above said target identity profile.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:
said one or more processors are part of an integrated identity and access system.

31. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:
said request is from a parent workflow; and
said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein:
said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said task comprises managing said target identity profile.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein managing said identity profile comprises one or more tasks selected from the group consisting of: creating a user, deleting a user, changing a user attribute, creating a group, deleting a group, and changing a group attribute.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein managing said identity profile comprises managing a certificate associated with said identity profile.

37. – 38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for using workflows, the method comprising:

associating workflows with one or more groups in an identity system, each group including one or more users of the identity system and each user of the identity system having an associated identity profile;

receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to a target identity profile in the identity system, wherein the request includes an identification of the target identity profile;

identifying a plurality of workflows that perform the task and are associated with groups that include the user associated with the target identity profile;

reporting the plurality of workflows via a Graphical User Interface (GUI) in response to the request;

receiving a user selection of a first workflow from the plurality of workflows via the GUI; and

performing a first step of said first workflow with a first program to affect the target identity profile, wherein the first program comprises one of a user manager, a group manager, and an organization manager; and

performing a second step of said first workflow with a second program, wherein the second program comprises one of the user manager, the group manager, and the organization manager and wherein the second program is different from the first program.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein performing one or more steps of the first workflow to affect the target identity profile includes modifying the target identity profile.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein performing one or more steps of the first workflow to affect the target identity profile includes deleting the target identity profile.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein receiving the request to perform the task that pertains to the target identity profile comprises receiving the request from the user associated with the target identity profile.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein receiving the user selection of the first workflow from the set of one or more workflows comprises receiving the user selection from the user associated with the target identity profile.

Please add the following new claims:

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said second program performs a second workflow to affect the target identity profile.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the second program is identified in an event catalog of the first workflow.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the event catalog further identifies one or more parameters for passing information between the first program and the second program.